

Application No. 09/749,059

1) (Three Times Amended) An improved blending tool for rotation in a blending machine around a central drive shaft having an axis, comprising:

(a) a shank having a location of attachment to the central drive shaft;

(b) a collision surface having a collision profile; and

(c) a connector mechanism pivotally connecting the collision surface to the shank at a location spaced apart from the attachment location, wherein pivoting at the connector mechanism varies the collision profile of the collision surface along a plane essentially parallel to the axis of the shaft and wherein the connector mechanism enables the collision surface to be rigidly fixed in one of a plurality of positions during rotation.

11) (Three Times Amended) A blending machine, comprising:

(a) a vessel for holding the media to be blended;

(b) a rotatable drive shaft having an axis, said rotatable drive shaft positioned inside of the vessel for transmitting rotational motion to the blending tool; and

(c) a blending tool mounted to the drive shaft inside the vessel, said blending tool comprising a shank having a location of attachment to the drive shaft, a collision surface having a collision profile, and a connector mechanism pivotally connecting the collision surface to the shank for connecting the collision surface to the shank at a location spaced apart from the attachment location, wherein pivoting at the connector mechanism varies the collision profile of the collision surface along a plane essentially parallel to the axis of the shaft and wherein the connector mechanism holds the collision surface in a rigidly fixed position during rotation of the tool.

Please cancel claims 14 and 21.

Please cancel claims 15-19.